

MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents
Student Transportation Director/Supervisors

FROM: Student Transportation Steering Committee
South Carolina Department of Education

DATE: June 28, 2000

RE: Student Discipline on School Buses

The South Carolina Department of Education is pleased to present for your review and use the enclosed *Student Bus Rider Discipline Code Guideline*. Working under the auspices of the Student Transportation Steering Committee, local school district and state student transportation officials have developed the *Guideline* over the past two years.

The Steering Committee encourages all districts to establish and enforce student conduct and discipline codes for students riding school buses that are at least equal to those used in the classroom. Student discipline is very important to school bus drivers, who frequently are required to manage more than the equivalent of two classrooms full of students while safely operating their school buses. These drivers need strong student discipline and conduct codes, and they need to have them strictly enforced.

The attached *Guideline* offers one example of a student discipline code that can be beneficial. Many other models are being employed successfully throughout South Carolina. One such code is that used by the Beaufort County School District, which differs from the *Guideline* in that it gives more discipline responsibility to the school bus driver.

The Steering Committee, while recommending the *Guideline*, encourages districts not to adopt it for use without thorough study. It is presented as a model that contains the recommended structure, detail, and focus necessary for a successful student transportation program. Should you desire an electronic copy of this *Guideline* or more information, please contact Donald Tudor, Director of the Office of Transportation, Department of Education.

Enclosure: See [Guidelines](#) section.